

# STILL COOL BUGS SALVAGE TIMBER SALE

October 15, 2007 Land Board

## **Location of Sale:**

- Clearwater Unit (SWLO) – Approximately 3 air miles east of Lincoln, Montana.
- Lewis and Clark County – Section 10, T14N-R8W
- 100% Public Buildings Trust
- This Section abuts the Lincoln, MT wildland urban interface.

## **Sale Volume & Estimated Value:**

- The estimated sale volume is 4,387 tons (728 MBF) with an estimated minimum bid value of \$94,320.50 or \$21.50/ton.
- In addition to the stumpage value, a fee of \$3.77/ton for Forest Improvement would be charged for all merchantable sawlog timber harvested.
- In addition to the sawlog volume there is an estimated 276 tons of non-sawlog material that is required to be removed. Minimum bid for this material would be \$1.00/ton.
- 6.03 tons/MBF is the conversion factor.

## **Sale & Harvest Treatments:**

- The sale contains eight harvest units totaling 158 acres.
- The sale would salvage timber recently killed by Mountain Pine Beetle. All lodgepole pine in the harvest units would be cut. In addition, there are Douglas-fir and Engelman spruce trees marked for removal due to attack from root rot, Douglas-fir bark beetle, and spruce budworm. Leave tree composition is designed to promote the Desired Future Condition for the stands in the sale. Reserve areas of 0.5 to 1.0 acres would be left to provide cover for grizzly bears and break up sight distance.
- This sale contains no old growth.

## **Harvest Systems:**

- 100% Tractor

## **Road Construction:**

There is approximately 0.67 miles of new road construction, 0.60 miles of road reconstruction, and 0.89 miles of road reclamation/obliteration. All haul roads would be improved, where necessary, to meet current BMPs. All new construction and an additional 0.22 miles of illegal ATV road would be obliterated upon sale completion.

## **Public Involvement:**

- Public involvement was solicited through legal notices published in the local newspapers. Letters were sent to adjacent landowners and other known interested parties and organizations. Management issues and concerns were identified by public comments, DNRC specialists, and field foresters. Issues and concerns have been resolved through mitigation or project design.

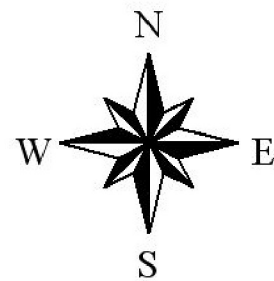
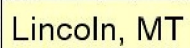
## **Public Comments, Issues and Mitigations:**

- **Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species – Grizzly Bear** - The project area is within the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem grizzly bear recovery area. Approximately 0.67 miles of new road would be built as a part of this project. This road

would be obliterated upon completion of the sale along with 0.22 miles of illegal ATV road/trail that has frequent use. The harvest units contain a mixture of Lodgepole pine and scattered Engelman spruce and Douglas-fir. Sight distance would be increased but reserve areas 0.5 to 1.0 acres in size would be left to provide cover and reduce sight distance. To further reduce impacts, the operating season would be limited to June 15 through April 15 and vegetative screening would be left along roads and along a series of small wetlands to the north of the project. Logging debris (tops, branches, etc.) would be left on all skidtrails to discourage use by ATV's.

**The Director recommends the Land Board direct the Department to sell the Still Cool Bugs Salvage Timber Sale.**

## Section 10 T 14 N R 08 W

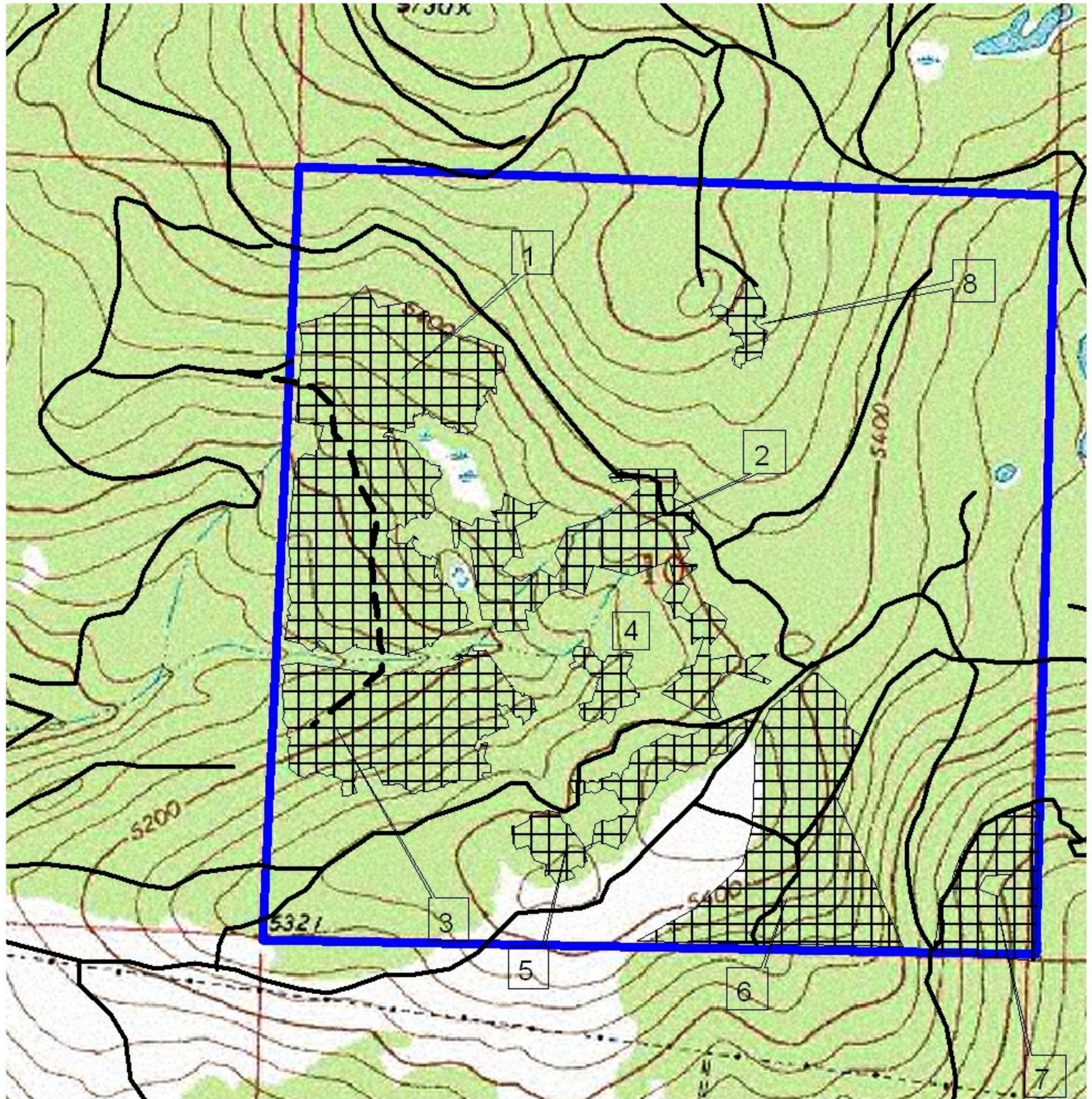


A horizontal scale bar with a black background and white markings. It is divided into four equal segments by white vertical lines. Above the bar, the numbers 1, 0, 1, and 2 are placed above the first, second, third, and fourth segments respectively. To the right of the number 2, the word "Miles" is written.



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Section 10 T14 N R08 W



-  Harvest Units
-  Project Area Roads
-  Road Construction
-  Project Area

